

PAUL McKINNEY
SEPT 27, 1999
YUCCA MT. PROJECT

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SEP 27 1999

1... I REALIZE IT IS NOT IN THIS TIME A VERY POPULAR WAY TO THINK BUT I CONSIDER IT A PRIVILEGE TO LIVE IN THIS COUNTRY AND IN THIS VALLEY. I ALSO THINK IT IS ONLY A SIMPLE THING TO CONSIDER THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE IN THE NATION FOR THIS PROJECT TO BE. IT HAS BEEN STUDIED FOR YEARS AND THE IDEA HAS NOT BEEN CHANGED. THE STUDIES HAVE ONLY PROVED THAT THERE ISN'T A BETTER PLACE FOR IT.

IN THIS COUNTRY WE HAVE PLACES WHERE THEY ARE STORING WASTE IN PONDS HOW LONG IS GOING TO LAST. OUR COUNTRY NEEDS THIS NOW AND WE HAVE THE ANSWER RIGHT HERE. THE LAND HAS ALREADY BEEN OCCUPIED BY THE TESTING OF MANY DIFFERENT THINGS AND NOW IS JUST ONE MORE THING. WITH THE TECHNOLOGY THAT WE HAVE IN THIS FIELD AND THE SPACE PROGRAMS THAT HAVE DEVELOPED IN THIS COUNTRY DON'T YOU THINK IN THE FUTURE IT WILL BE DISCOVERED THAT SOMETHING VERY SIGNIFICANT WILL DEVELOPED THAT THIS PRODUCT WILL BE USED FOR AND IT WILL BE OF GREAT HELP TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY.

THE LAND HAS BELONGED TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR A LONG TIME AND WILL NEVER COME BACK TO THE STATE. WHY NOT LET THE GOVERNMENT USE THIS LAND INSTEAD OF LOOKING FOR ANOTHER PLACE WHERE THEY WILL HAVE TO TAKE MORE LAND AWAY FROM THE PUBLIC.

2 A RAILROAD FROM CALLIENTA TO TONAPAH AND DOWN TO LATHROP WELLS WOULD KEEP IT IN THE BUFFER ZONE OF THE TEST SITE AND WOULD KEEP IT AWAY FROM THE PUBLIC TRAFFIC ZONES. SOME SPURS COULD BE IMPLEMENTED FOR BUSINESS TO USE THIS COULD BE A FAVORABLE THING FOR AMARGOSA INSTEAD THE DOOMSDAY THAT THE PROTESTERS WOULD HAVE YOU BELIEVE. I AM SURE THEY ARE PAID FOR THEIR TIME AND YOU AND I PAY IT TAXES FOR ALL OF THE TIME IT TAKES TO STUDY AND STUDY TO PROVE THE FACTS ARE THE SAME AS WAS PRESENTED IN THE BEGINNING WITH MORE PROOF THAT THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE THEY HAVE TO TURN TO.

IF THE D O E. COULD BRING TO THE PUBLIC THE INFORMATION THAT THIS IS A GOOD THING AS MUCH AS THE PROTESTERS SAY THIS IS A BAD THING THE FEELINGS WOULD BE DIFFERENT.

I GUESS I HAVE BEEN TALKING TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS VALLEY IN THIS MEETING MORE THAN TO THE D O E BUT I WILL SUBMIT A MORE COMPREHENSIVE COMMENT LATER.

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1 cont.

I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN BEHIND THE SITE OF YUCCA MT. FOR THE REPOSITORY AND AS FOR THE SAFETY FACTOR I FEEL THAT IF THE PUBLIC WERE INFORMED IN THE SAFETY OF HOW THE STUDIES HAVE PROVEN THAT THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE FOR THIS FACILITY.

THE SAFETY FACTOR THAT DEVELOPED OUT HERE AT THE NEVADA TEST SITE HAS BEEN PHENOMENAL. THE PUBLIC HAS BEEN SATURATED WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTESTERS WITH PROPAGANDA SO MUCH OUT CRY FROM THE UN OR MISINFORMED BECAUSE THEY DON'T HAVE THE ENTIRE PICTURE THEY SCREAM ENOUGH THAT THE PUBLIC JUST HAVE TO HEAR THE FIRST WORD EITHER YUCCA MT. OR NUCLEAR OR REPOSITORY AND THEY PANIC.

3 THERE IS A PROBLEM I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS. THE TRANSPORTATION I REALIZE THAT THE ROADS MUST BE UPGRADED TO MAKE THEM AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE AND CERTAIN ROAD MUST BE USED. HOWEVER FROM THE EAST I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT FROM CALLENTY IF A RAILROAD COULD BE BUILT ON THE TEST SITE LAND IN THE BUFFER ZONES AT THE NORTH HEADED WEST TO ABOUT TONAPAH AND THEN DOWN TO THE BACK GATE OR EVEN THE ENTRANCE TO MERCURY. THIS COULD ALSO HAVE SOME SPURS TO ENHANCE THE GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS.

4 IN THE PAST THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE BUSINESS WITH NYE COUNTY AND WHEN DOLLARS WERE PAID TO THE COUNTY AND THE COMMUNITY CLOSEST TO THE PROJECT IS AMARGOSA AND OUR COMMUNITY WILL BE INCREASED WITH POPULATION AND THE SCHOOLS AND HOUSING AND OTHER SERVICES SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AS TO WHAT WE COULD DO AND HOW WE COULD FUND THESE PROBLEMS WITHOUT INCREASING OUR TAXES. WE HAVE THE SECOND LARGEST COUNTY IN THE NATION AND THE POPULATION ISN'T VERY MANY. WE ARE THE SECOND LARGEST TOWNSHIP IN THE COUNTRY AND THE LOWEST POPULATION SO YOU CAN BET WE HAVE HIGH TAXES NOW AND WHEN THIS PROJECT TAKES PLACE THE ONLY LOGICAL THING WOULD BE TO GIVE A REAL LOOK AT THE HELP YOU COULD GIVE TO MAKE THE TRANSITION AS EASY AS POSSIBLE.

5 OUR WATER IS VERY GOOD AT THIS STAGE AND I FEEL THAT IT WILL STAY THAT WAY BUT THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE TOTALLY UNHAPPY BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN TOLD ABOUT ALL THE DIFFERENT WAYS IT WILL BE CONTAMINATED AND IT IS CONFUSING. I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT IF THE DOE WOULD PUBLISH INFORMATION AND HAVE A SPOKESMAN TO SPEAK ON THE MEDIA AND TO TOWN MEETINGS AND KEEP LETTING THE PUBLIC KNOW YOU HAVE ANSWERS FOR THE QUESTIONS. AND THAT THIS IS THE BEST PLACE IN THE NATION FOR THIS PURPOSE AS WELL AS THE FACT THE SITE HAS ALREADY BEEN GOVERNMENT LAND AND WILL NEVER COME BACK TO THE STATE SO WHY FIGHT IT.

1 cont.

EVENTUALLY THERE IS GOING TO BE GROWTH IN THIS VALLEY AND IF IT CAN BE HELPED OUT BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE USE OF THE LAND THEY ALREADY HAVE UNDER THEIR CONTROL I WONDER WHY IS THERE SO MUCH TROUBLE OVER SOMETHING THAT IS FOR THE TOTAL GOOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE NATION..

I KNOW IT ISN'T A POPULAR THING TO DO ANYMORE BUT I FOR ONE THINK THAT IF IT IS DONE WITH SAFETY FIRST THEN THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM.

WELL TRAINED PEOPLE AND EDUCATED PEOPLE IN THE THIS FIELD SHOULD BE ABDICATE FOR WE MUST DEPEND ON THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF THINGS LIKE THIS.